

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 IO-13 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05

H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02

SS-15 ICA-11 ARA-10 HA-05 ACDA-12 AID-05 TRSE-00

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FM AMEMBASSY CONAKRY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4452

INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

C O N F I D E N T I A L CONAKRY 1182

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: CG, EAID, EFIN, PINS, MOPS

SUBJECT: BRIEFING HOST OFFICIALS ON PARIS MEETING ON ZAIRE

REFFC KA) STATE 148408, (B) STATE 150372, (C) STATE 30672

1. SUMMARY: AMBASSADOR BRIEFED PRIME MINISTER'S CHIEF OF CABINET ON SHABA JUNE 13. CONVERSATION PROVIDED INTERESTING REFLECTION OF VIEWS OF INTELLIGENT, LEFTIST-ORIENTED GUINEAN NATIONALIST WHO DESPISES MOBUTU, SUPPORTS CUBANS AND SOVIETS IN ANGOLA AND OGADEN, BUT SEES SOVIETS AS REPRESENTING AN ALIEN IDEOLOGY IMPOSED BY FORCE IN EASTERN EUROPE AND CENTRAL ASIA AND NOT APPROPRIATE FOR AFRICA. END SUMMARY

2. FOLLOWING DCM'S BRIEFING OF PRIME MINISTER WAS CHIEF OF CABINET ALPHA I. DIALLO JUNE 6 PER REF C, AMBASSADOR MADE SHABA PRESENTATION SUGGESTED REF A JUNE 15, ALSO TO DIALLO IN ABSENCE OF PRIME MINISTER AND FOREIGN MINISTER. DIALLO EXPRESSED THANKS FOR BRIEFING AND SAID HE WOULD PASS SUBSTANCE TO PRIME MINISTER ON HIS RETURN FROM GULF STATES.

HE SAID GOG HAD NOT YET ESTABLISHED ITS POSITION ON THE SUBJECT AND IS PROCEEDING CAUTIOUSLY, WAITING FOR FACTS
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OF SITUATION TO BECOME CLEAR.

3. SPEAKING ON PERSONAL BASIS, DIALLO THEN WENT ON FOR AN HOUR, PROVIDING INTERESTING INSIGHTS INTO GENERAL GUINEAN DISLIKE FOR MOBUTU AND SUSPICIONS OF WESTERN INVOLVEMENT IN SHABA.

A. DIALLO DENIED THAT CUBANS HAD TRAINED, ARMED OR SENT KATANGANS INTO SHABA AND HG POINTED TO DIFFERENCES OF OPINION ENAN IN US OVER CUBAN INVOLVEMENT. HE CITED CASTRO'S STATEMENT THAT HE HAD TRIED TO DISSUADE M'BUMBA BUT HAD LITTLE INFLUENCE AND INSUFFICIENT STRENGTH TO STOP THE INVASION. DIALLO STATED KATANGANS OCCUPY AREA BORDERING ZAIRE AND ZAMBIA WHERE THEY LIVE WITH THEIR DEMILIES AND EXERCISE CONTROL INDEPENDENT OF NETO OR CUBANS. AMBASSADOR POINTED OUT QUANTITIES OF SOVIET ARMS CAPTURED FROM INVADERS IN SHABA. DIALLO SAID THEY HAD RECEIVED ARMS AND TRAINING FROM VARIOUS SOURCES, STARTING WITH BELGIAN TRAINING IN SUPPORT OF DATANGA SECESSION, GOING ON TO MOBUTU'S USE OF KATANGANS AGAINST MPLA, AND THEN MPLA'S USE OF THEM AGAINST FNLA. HE ADMITTED CUBANS HAD PROVIDED ARMS AND TRAINING IN LAST INSTANCE BUT DENIED THEY WERE INTENDED FOR USE AGAINST SHABA.

B. AMBASSADOR POINTED OUT THAT REGARDLESS OF CUBAN INVOLVEMENT, KATANGAN INVASION WAS DESTABILIZING THREAT TO SHABA SECURITY AND MOBUTU GOVERNMENT; FOREIGN ASSISTANCE WAS JUSTIFIED TO SAVE LIVES AND ESTABLISH SECURITY IN SHABA SO BASIC PROBLEMS OF ECONOMIC RECOVERY AND RESOLUTION OF POLITICAL DIFFERENCES WITH ANGOLA CAN BE DEALT WITH. DIALLO SAID KATANGAN INVASION WAS REFLECTION OF DISSATISFACTION WITH MOBUTU
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REGIME ON PART OF KATANGANS WHO HAD IN EARLY 60'S BEEN ENCOURAGED BY BELGIUM TO THINK IN TERMS OF BREAK-AWAY. AMBASSADOR CITED DANGERS OF ETHNIC SEPARATISM AND SAID MOBUTU SHOULD NOT BE CRITICIZED FOR REQUESTING OUTSIDE ASSISTANCE. DIALLO SAID GOG HAD NEVER CRITICIZED EXTENSION OF FOREIGN ASSISTANCE TO ZAIRE, AND NO AFRICAN STATE WOULD SUPPORT SHABA SECESSION. HOWEVER, HE EXPRESSED UNDERLYING SUSPICION OF WESTERN MOTIVES, WHICH HE APPEARED TO SUSPECT WERE DEVIOUS AND INIMICAL TO AFRICAN INTERESTS.

C. DIALLO SAID THE MAIN PROBLEM WITH ZAIRE IS MOBUTU AND HIS MISMANAGEMENT OF THE COUNTRY, WASTING VAST SUMS ON OSTENTATION AND DOING NOTHING FOR WELFARE AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE PEOPLE. HE SAID FUNDAMENTAL REQUIREMENT IS INTERNAL REFORM; WITHOUT THIS, THERE CAN BE NO STABILITY AND NO RESOLUTION WITH ANGOLA. AMBASSADOR POINTED OUT NEED FOR REFORM IS RECOGNIZED AND PLANS ARE BEING FORMULATED, AS INDICATED IN REF A BRIEFING.

D. DIALLO SAID THE WEST NEED NOT WORRY ABOUT

COMMUNISM AND SOVIET INFLUENCE IN AFRICA. SAID HE HAD STUDIED MARXISM AND KNEW THAT THE REAL WORLD IS THE ONE HE FINDS WHEN HE VISITS HIS FATHER IN HIS VILLAGE ON THE WEEKENDS. TRADITIONS AND OUTLOOK THERE ARE THE VALID ONES; COMMUNISM IS ALIEN. AFRICAN STATES WANT INDEPENDENCE, NOT DOMINATION; IT IS OBVIOUS THAT THE SOVIET UNION IS HOLDING EASTERN EUROPE AND EVEN MANY OF ITS OWN SOCIALIST REPUBLICS BY FORCE OF ARMS AND POLICE AUTHORITY. DIALLO SAID SOVIET AND CUBAN SUPPORT FOR ETHIOPIA IN THE OGADEN WAS STRAIGHTFORWARD AND UNOBJECTIONABLE, BUT ERITREA IS ANOTHER MATTER ALTOGETHER AND ACCORDINGLY REGARDED WITH GREAT RESERVE IN AFRICA.

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4. COMMENT: DIALLO IS MORE ARTICULATE, PERHAPS MORE LEFTIST THAN SOME IN GOG'S HIERARCHY BUT IS ROUGHLY REPRESENTATIVE OF GOG ATTITUDES. HE HAS USUALLY SEEMED TO PASS ON US POINT OF VIEW WITHOUT TOO MUCH DISTORTION TO PRIMIN. IN FINAL ANALYSIS ONLY SEKOU TOURE WILL SET GUINEAN POLICY, BUT SUCH VIEWS AS DIALLO'S WILL COLOR HIS THINKING, EVEN IF HE CONTINUES TO REFRAIN FROM PUBLICLY CRITICISING WESTERN ACTS IN SHABA SUPPORTING MOBUTU. CROSBY

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